



FATALITY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER & FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



AFZX-SA


APR 20 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: POV Fatality -- Safety Alert 05-03

1. A Soldier was recently killed in an accident while driving his POV.
2. The Soldier was traveling on Louisiana Highway 10. He was driving at an excessive speed and lost control of his vehicle. His vehicle flipped over and struck a tree. The Soldier was wearing a seatbelt, but given the high rate of speed and the magnitude of the impact, the force of the crash was enough to prove fatal.
3. **What were the driving mistakes?**
 - a. Driving at an excessive speed.
 - b. Failure to maintain control of the vehicle.
4. **Lessons Learned:**
 - a. Always drive at the appropriate speed. Never exceed the posted speed limit and remember to reduce your speed depending on the road conditions, weather, and your familiarity with the road.
 - b. Ensure that you use proper technique to regain control of your vehicle, should you temporarily lose control. Know what to do when your vehicle starts to slide.
 - c. Always wear your seatbelt.

**ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST
ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS**


MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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